

# BE SURE TO TEST SEED CORN

**AGRICULTURAL**  
Experts predict  
short corn crop this  
year. Farmers ad-  
vised to test every  
grain of seed in  
order to avoid loss  
—situation serious

By P. G. HOLDEN.

HERE will be a short corn crop this year and millions of dollars will be lost to the farmers if great care is not taken in selecting and testing the seed corn for this season's planting.

We may well take the warning to heart, for this section of the country lives and prospers largely on the production of its land, and follow the advice of agricultural scientists who can tell our people how to escape heavy loss. This advice will work no hardship and no expense if followed. It will require a little careful work and sharp watching at a season of the year when the farmer is not overburdened with labor.

Nineteen fifteen was a bad year for corn. A cold, wet season retarded the growth of the grain. The crop in many parts of the corn belt was immature. It contains an excessive amount of water and is unfit for seed. The scarcity of seed corn is really the most serious in many years.

You farmers may say you are going to use seed from your 1914 crop. Don't trust it. The grain may have been damaged by the frost during the harvest of last year. Don't trust it—test it. The high price of corn, too, an account of the war has nearly exhausted the 1914 crop and this source of supply then is not reliable.

**Missing Hills, Weak Stalks.**

There are about 800 kernels on the average ear of corn. One poor seed means 800 weak, moldy or dead kernels. If these are planted in a corn field, the result will be missing hills and weak stalks producing little or nothing. According to reports just received, every indication points to very serious trouble with seed corn, especially in sections lying north of central Illinois and in North Dakota, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Michigan and Iowa.

This community ought to get busy right now, for the prosperity of our community—our merchants, our bankers, our builders, our workers—depends on the prosperity of the farmers hereabouts. We ought to be in a corn campaign. The county superintendent of schools can reach the farmers through the rural schoolteachers, who in turn will see that the children carry the message home. You bankers, merchants and implement dealers who trade directly with the farmers ought to write personal letters urging them to go into this matter scientifically. In short, all of us ought to mobilize our forces, just as our nation would have to mobilize all its resources in case of war.

You farmers must not use poor seed this spring. It means too much to all of us. Poor seed means not only a poor stand and a portion of the field idle, but that you must cultivate missing hills, one-stalk hills, and poor, worthless stalks, and receive nothing in return.

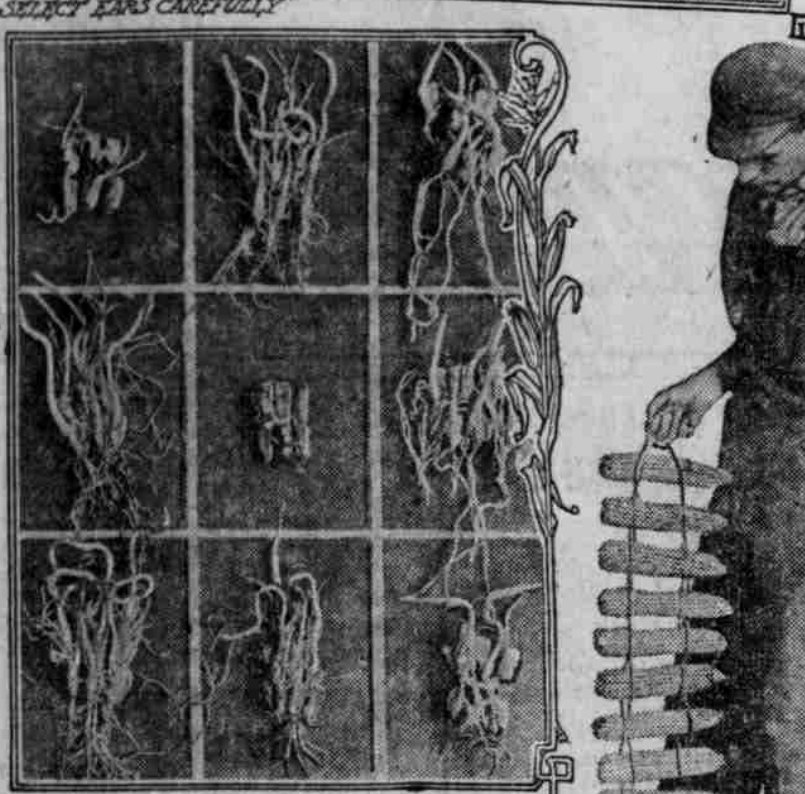
**Don't Work for Nothing.**  
Thousands of people every year work more than a third of every day on ground that produces nothing. Do not depend for seed on the occasional good ears selected during the husking period. The corn will be ruined by freezing before it is husked or before it has had time to become dry after husking.

Select the best ears, if you have not already done so, and string them on binder twine and hang up.

Do not store seed corn in barrels or boxes. It will "gather moisture" and mold or freeze. Do not store over the winter. Do not put immature or freshly gathered seed corn in a warm room, on the floor, or in piles. It will either sprout, or mold, or both. It should be hung up at once, and the windows opened to allow the fresh circulation of air. Do not depend on the crib for seed corn.

One day devoted to the seed corn, at the proper time, may be worth more than an entire month of hard work next summer put on a poor stand of corn.

The attic is a good place to hang up the seed corn. There should be a circulation of air through the room. A space three by eight feet will hold 200 strings of corn, twelve to fifteen ears to each string, or about enough to plant 200 acres. Three-fourths of this



corn may be discarded after testing, but there will be enough seed to plant fifty acres, more than the average acreage on each farm. There are several objections to the average cellar. It is apt to be too damp, and the corn must be well dried before putting in the cellar, and it must not be corded up or put in piles, but hung up.

**Will Your Seed Corn Grow?**  
It is only good business to know that the seed that you put into the ground will grow; and the only way you can tell good seed is by testing it. You can't tell by merely looking at it. If you want profitable yields, you must plant good seed.

The ten million acres of corn planted in Iowa every year are grown on 217,000 farms, an average of about forty-six acres to each farm. It will take about 600 ears to plant forty acres. Twenty-four hours' work of one man, two days' work, will test six kernels from each ear to plant forty acres. Yet, because it is "too much bother," most of us pick out 600 ears, look at them, guess that they will grow, and plant them. As a consequence, more than twelve acres out of each forty acres of corn planted produce nothing. This is worse than useless, because one must plow, plant and cultivate these twelve acres and get nothing in return. By testing you get rid of the bad, weak, and moldy ears. Testing does not hurt the corn. It costs but about ten cents an acre, and can be done at a time of the year when other farm work is not pressing. By testing you have everything to gain and nothing to lose.

**Discard Poor Ears.**  
In the winter, during a slack season or in the early spring, from February 20 to March 20, select the best ears from the corn you have stored in the fall and get ready to put them through the test.

The sawdust germination box is no doubt the best method for testing seed corn. It costs nothing but a little time and labor. It furnishes nearly natural conditions. It is not essential that the box be of any particular size, although about thirty inches square and four or five inches deep will be best. This size will test 100 ears at a time.

The sawdust is light, clean, and easy to get and handle in February and the first of March, when the testing should be done; it is a good non-conductor of heat and cold, so that the temperature is kept during germination, and holds the moisture so perfectly that there is no danger of drying out.

The number of boxes required will depend upon the amount of seed to be tested and the time limit. After the germination boxes are made, inspect carefully the ears you are to test from the standpoint of the kernel.

Take two or three kernels from each ear, about a third of the length of the ear from the butt. Lay them germ-side up at the tip of the ear from which they were taken. If the kernels are small, wedge-shaped, narrow, shallow, too deep, or if they show immaturity, starchiness, a tendency to mold, or if the germs are small, or shriveled, discard the ear.

Remove six kernels from six different places on each ear you have selected to test, taking two from near the butt on the opposite sides of the ear, two from near the tip, turning the ear enough so as not to take two kernels out of the same row.

**How to Test Seed Corn.**  
Fill the box about half full of moist sawdust, well pressed down, so as to



MR. FOX TELLS A STORY.

"Mr. Fox will certainly be interested in the story of the boy's cap," said Jack Rabbit, when the time came for him to go to the fox's home on the hill again, "and I shall have to tell him how unexpectedly I found an illustration for his lesson that happiness is largely the result of being contented."

The day was a very pleasant one and Mr. Fox in his home on the hill was thinking of Jack Rabbit and wondering how he was and what luck he had had in applying the wisdom he had given him. "It is so fine a day," said the fox to himself, "that I think I will walk out a way and meet Jack Rabbit and we can chat as we walk along."

And so it happened that Jack Rabbit had not more than half completed the journey when he met Mr. Fox. "Good morning," they both said, and each asked after the health of the other.

"It is such a fine day," said the fox, "that it seems to me that it would be pleasant to sit for a while on the bank of the pond and sun ourselves."

"It would, indeed," replied the rabbit, "and I am glad to hear of it."

"Good Morning," they both said. "I am glad to hear of it," said the fox, "and I am glad to hear of it."

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ened to send her away to another field to live if she persisted in spending so much time in his company.

"Nor was the frog very much flattered by the attentions of the mouse, for he felt that he was much more important an individual to seriously consider marrying so unpretentious an animal as the little gray mouse."

"I very likely shall marry a beaver or a mink," he said to himself, "and, at any rate, I shall do no more than amuse myself with Gray Mouse until I have found someone more to my liking."

"Gray Mouse was made quite unhappy by her failure to make the frog declare an affection for her, but in the absence of that she planned out a very original scheme she thought would make her and the frog inseparable."

"She had noticed how large and unwieldy were the webbed feet of the frog, and how flat his mouth, and she said to herself: 'He could not untie a knot with his fingers nor bite a knot with his mouth, and if I could tie myself to him he would never be able to get away.'"

"So next day when the frog was asleep in the sun she crept softly up to his side, and with a hair which she had stolen from the tail of a horse pastured in the field where she lived she tied a knot which bound the end of her tail securely to the frog's hind leg."

"There," she said to herself, "we shall never be separated again and he is mine forever."

"Shortly after the frog awakened and found Gray Mouse by his side. He gossiped with her for some time, but every time that she attempted to say anything of love the frog turned the conversation to some other topic. At last, growing tired of the attempts of Gray Mouse to talk on matters which in no way interested him, the frog jumped into the pond. And as he did so, the mouse, being securely tied to him by her tail, was snatched suddenly into the water with him, and as the frog dived deeper into the water she gradually lost her breath and was drowned."

"Well, what a fool of a mouse she was," said Jack Rabbit, as the fox concluded his story.

## JAPANESE BOY MOST POLITE

If Youth Does Happen to Forget, Offense Is Not Taken, but Due Apology Is Made.

Perhaps you are tired of hearing the Japanese boy is the most polite youth in the world. No wonder! You have had this fact drummed into your ears from the time you were a child. The fact makes you say or think—Fudge! Perhaps you can endure just one more allusion to this pleasing trait of the young Japanese. If one does chance to forget his manners—a most uncommon occurrence—the offense is not so much punished but apologized for. A case is told where a child on the street called a traveler a "foreign devil." This is a common epithet in China and all through the old world. People use this expression as you would call a Chinaman a "heathen Chinese." In the case of the child, he was reproved, a policeman was sent for, who visited the insulted lady and an apology was tendered for her rudeness to the child. All this politeness and courtesy has not made the Japanese "easy." Yet, how what magnificent fighters they proved themselves in their war with Russia.

## A Nation Contest.

What nation has brought about the most terrible wars? Indignation.

What nation creates fear and terror? Consternation.

What nation exercises the greatest authority? Domination.

What nation is given over to destruction? Ruination.

What nation has produced the most keen? Corruption.

What nation did the old prophets come from? Divination.

What nation is the slowest nation? Procrastination.

What nation is famous for its lightning system? Illumination.

"Tree" Riddles.

What part of your hand is like a tree? Palm.

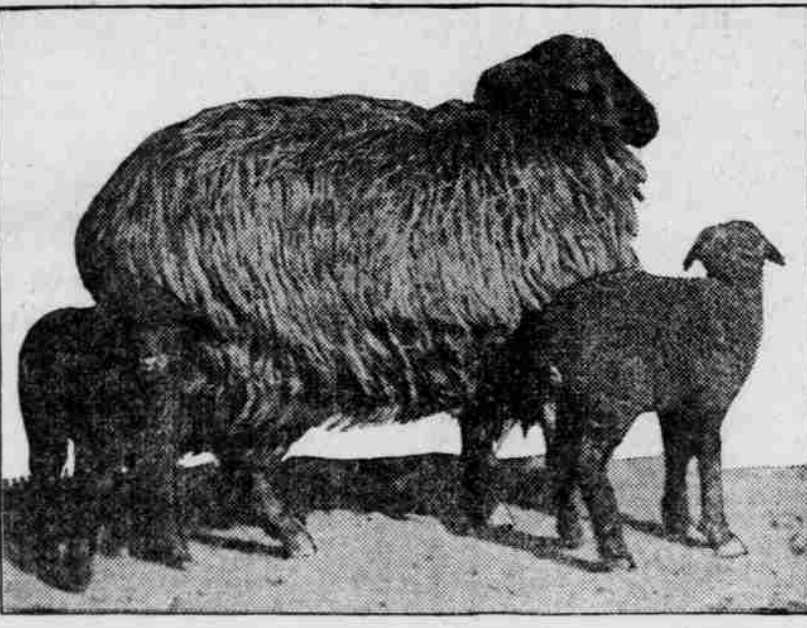
Which is the debtor's favorite tree? The willow (will owe).

Which is the tree that fire does not burn? Ash.

What tree carries most fruit to market? The axle tree.

Which is the most ancient tree? Elder.

## ANIMALS BUILD UP CHARACTER OF BOY



Karakule Ewe and Twin Lambs.

Dr. David Starr Jordan of Stanford university offers testimony as to what the care of animals may do in building up the character of a boy, in the lamb playmates of his youth:

"I owe a great deal," he confesses, "to a flock of lambs that were put in my care when I was a boy, and which I cared for for a number of years, shearing them all myself, giving them food and keeping account of the amount of wool furnished by each. Ever since this experience I have regarded natural history as a more graceful and dignified way of making friends among animals."

**Thoroughly Awake.**  
"So you stole those green apples?"  
"Yes, dad."

"And now your conscience is bothering you, eh?"  
"Yes," said the unhappyurchin, "it's bothering my stomach. I can hear growling."

**Some Ambition.**  
Uncle Ned—What are you going to study to be when you grow up?  
Willie—A rich guy.

## Naive and Pretty Crepe Frock



A naive and pretty frock of gray crepe de chine, such as that pictured above, will lend demureness and a touch of youth to its wearer, be she lacking in both. It has the charm of simplicity and of clever originality to commend it to those who know the value of these things that spell "class."

There are plenty of the widely flaring and quaint-looking skirts and the plain, drawn-in waists for those who would run after new gods (or a revival of old ones) in pursuit of fashion. But for those who remain loyal to the waist that blouses and the straight-hanging full skirt that has youthfulness of line always to commend it, the frock shown here will make a strong appeal.

The skirt denotes the demand of the mode for extreme shortness and takes to itself a little extra length, required by the impression the finished frock must make. There is a straight pleat at each side hanging from a moderately wide, plain girde. This is edged the top with a band of crossed-barred satin in white with dark gray bars, and above this a soft rill of the crepe meets the blouse.

The buttons are covered with crepe like the dress, and there is an odd and very youthful-looking collar of white crepe about the round neck. It fastens in the back.

The long, straight sleeves are gathered into a wide band at the wrist, and a flaring turnback cuff, of the cross-barred material, is set on to the band. In the management of the collar and cuffs and girde the originality of the designer is most apparent, and the whole frock speaks for her sense of fitness and beauty.

## Effective Schemes.

Fur is frequently introduced as a trimming detail, and several effective schemes are being carried out with a combination of crepe and skunk. A charming example is a blouse of the palest pale-pink chiffon with veiled fine ivory shadow lace arranged to fall in a little basque movement over a deep bell of black panne, tiny black dots trimming the V-shaped neck opening and sleeves, which are furthermore adorned by ruffles of fine net. The distinctive feature is a little bolera of old gold mousseline de soie, the edges bordered by a finger depth of skunk fur, the fronts just caught together by a cameo brooch.

## New Neckband.

The newest thing in neckbands is the small black silk cord from which hangs a jeweled pendant. These may also be used as veil fasteners, placing the cord and pendant over the veil.

## Dressing the Child's Hair



There are several pretty ways of trimming the hair of little boys and girls, and of managing that of larger girls in a way to take the best possible care of it. But none of them is quite so popular as the bobbed hair, which is equally pleasing on boys or girls that are little, or the braided hair for larger girls, as shown here. Those who trim the locks of the little ones make some variations in the bobbed haircut, to suit the individual. Sometimes the bang is longer and sometimes the hair at the sides, naturally wavy or curly, is cut a little longer so that it curves about the ears. Occasionally a side part suits the style of the youngster's face particularly well, in which case the hair is trimmed and trained to this style for a boy or girl.

On little girls from three to eight, curls that hang almost to the shoulders and a fringe of ringlets about the face make out so good a case for themselves, on the score of becomingness, that they are always fashionable. Then the hair bow of ribbon begins to fill the horizon of the little miss.

and the matter of fostering the growth of her hair claims the attention of her mother. The hair loosely braided and wrapped about the head is as practical and pretty as any arrangement for the girl of eight and upward, as can be found.

Unless the little miss has hair of more than average length it will be necessary to braid her ribbons in with it, toward the ends of the braids. This hairdress keeps the hair from being broken and roughened and allows it to be easily combed.

To the end of her school days hair ribbons are among the accessories of importance which suggest the time of the young girl. Just how versatile she becomes anyone who observes will learn. All sorts of bows worn in all sorts of ways have their seasons of popularity, and it is interesting to note the amount of style which some gifted misses manage to achieve in making and wearing them.

*Julia Bottomly*

## Reindeer Proved Their Value.

The first practical test of the endurance of reindeer and their ability to traverse any part of the country under the most unfavorable circumstances, with the temperature at times lower than that experienced by many of the Arctic expeditions, was made in 1938. The train, consisting of nine sledges and 17 head of deer, started from Teller station in the dead of winter, with the thermometer at 45 degrees below zero. Native trails and well-known sections of the country were

purposely avoided. The trip of more than 2,000 miles was made in a little less than two weeks—with a loss of but two deer.

**Need for Electric Rickshaws.**  
According to advices from India, there is no reason why small electric vehicles should not replace the rickshaws in hill stations, where these are now in general use. The overall dimensions of the vehicle need not be over eleven feet by five feet—Popular Science Monthly.

## Gracie Up to Date.

"That old saw about 'The hand that rocks the cradle is the hand that rules the world,' must have been written when mother had rheumatism in her feet. The majority of mothers never used their hands, anyway; they performed the stunt with their feet. But there is a new cradle-rocking device that does not require hands or feet. Baby is placed in the cradle and the machine attached to it does the rest. The cradle is exhibited in the window of a store in an uptown street. Fascinated to the cradle is this sign: 'Bring in your baby and we will rock it for nothing.' Women with babies in their arms and in carriages stop and read the sign and view the cradle as it swings back and forth. But none accept the invitation to have baby rocked."

## Have You a Fairy in Your Home?

"Do you believe in corsets for men?" "I certainly do. Every man ought to have a corset and a corset wearer in his house."

## Get the Habit of Drinking Hot Water Before Breakfast

Says we can't look or feel right with the system full of poisons.

Millions of folks bathe internally now instead of loading their system with drugs. "It's an inside bath," you say. "Well, it is guaranteed to perform miracles if you could believe these hot water enthusiasts."

There are vast numbers of men and women who, immediately upon arising in the morning, drink a glass of real hot water with a teaspoonful of limestone phosphate. This is a very excellent health measure. It is intended to flush the stomach, liver, kidneys and the thirty feet of intestines of the previous day's waste, sour bile and indigestible material left over in the body which, if not eliminated every day, become food for the millions of bacteria which infect the bowels, the quick result is poisons and toxins which are then absorbed into the blood causing headaches, bilious attacks, foul breath, bad taste, colds, stomach trouble, kidney misery, sleeplessness, impure blood and all sorts of ailments.

People who feel good one day and badly the next, but who simply can not get feeling right are urged to obtain a quarter pound of limestone phosphate from any druggist or storekeeper. This will cost very little but is sufficient to make anyone a real crank on the subject of internal sanitation.

Just as soap and hot water act on the skin, cleansing, sweetening and freshening, so limestone phosphate and hot water act on the stomach, liver, kidneys and bowels. It is vastly more important to bathe on the inside than on the outside, because the skin pores do not absorb impurities so the blood, while the bowels pores do. —Adv.

## No Change.

"It's a scandal the way women dress nowadays. Our grandmothers never wore any such immodest garments."

"Perhaps not, but I'd be willing to bet that our grandfathers made just as big a fuss over the things they did wear as you men do about the present styles."

## "CASCARETS" FOR LIVER, BOWELS

For sick headache, bad breath, Sour Stomach and constipation.

Get a 10-cent box now. No odds how bad your liver, stomach or bowels; how much your head aches, how miserable and uncomfortable you are from constipation, indigestion, biliousness, sluggish bowels—you always get the desired results with Cascarets.

Don't let your stomach, liver and bowels make you miserable. Take Cascarets tonight; put an end to the headache, biliousness, dizziness, nervousness, sick, sour, gassy stomach, backache and all other distress; cleanse your inside organs of all the bile, gases and constipated matter which is producing the misery.

A 10-cent box means health, happiness and a clear head for months. No more days of gloom and distress if you will take a Cascarets now and then. All stores sell Cascarets. Don't forget the children—their little insides need a cleansing, too. Adv.

## The Seat of Trouble.

"Toothache?"  
"Yeah. Something terrible."  
"Which tooth is it?"  
"That new false tooth in front. I had it filled with gold so that it would look natural, and the gold doesn't show a bit. Wouldn't that give you a pain?"

## Important to Mothers.

Examine carefully every bottle of CASTORIA, a safe and sure remedy for infants and children, and see that it bears the Signature of Dr. J. C. Fletcher. In Use for Over 30 Years. Children Cry for Fletcher's Castoria.

## Evidently Satisfied.

Ethel—Is the man you are engaged to at all bookish?  
Mario—Well, yes; pocketbookish.

Dr. Pierce's Pellets are best for liver, bowels and stomach. One little Pellet for a laxative—three for a cathartic.—Adv.

## Love is a disease that most girls catch as often as they are exposed.

## BIG EATERS HAVE BAD KIDNEYS AND BACKACHE.

Take a Glass of Salts at Once if Your Back Is Hurting or Kidneys and Bladder Trouble You.

The American men and women must guard constantly against kidney trouble, because it eats too much and all our food is rich. Our blood is filled with uric acid which the kidneys strive to filter out, they weaken from overwork, become sluggish; the eliminative tissues clog and the result is kidney trouble, bladder weakness and a general decline in health.

When your kidneys feel like lumps of lead; your back hurts or the urine is cloudy, full of sediment or you are obliged to seek relief two or three times during the night; if you suffer with sick headache or dizzy, nervous spells, acid stomach, or any rheumatism when the weather is bad, get from your pharmacist about four ounces of Jad Salts; take a tablespoonful in a glass of water before breakfast for a few days and your kidneys will then act fine. This famous salt is made from acid of grapes and lemon juice, combined with lithia, and has been used for generations to flush and stimulate clogged kidneys; to neutralize the acids in the urine so it no longer is a source of irritation, thus ending bladder disorders.

Jad Salts is inexpensive; cannot injure, makes a delightful effervescent lithia-water beverage, and belongs in every home, because nobody can make a mistake by having a good kidney flushing any time.—Adv.

If some people knew how little their knew they would probably talk less.

## INTERESTING ITEMS

A novelty for smokers is tobacco packed in paper cartridges to be smoked in any pipe or in specially designed tubes which resemble enlarged cigar holders.

William Frederick Allen, who died recently at his home in Orange, N. J., at the age of seventy years, was the inventor of the present method of computing standard time in this country, which system has been adopted in practically every civilized country.

The wireless station at Colaba, near the tip of the peninsula in the Arabian Sea, South Atlantic and Gulf regions to aid shipping.

For the guidance of aviators a French aerial league will have the latitude and longitude of towns painted on the tops of gasometers throughout the country.

What is probably the largest rug ever shipped to the United States is on exhibition in St. Louis. The rug measures 24 by 49 feet, weighs more than 1,500 pounds, and was woven in a single piece in Glasgow, Scotland.

The examination of fairly accurate records has convinced scientists that there has been no appreciable change in the climate of northern Europe in 1,800 years.

Instead of a wind shield that might interfere with the vision a motor cycle can now carry a device that deflects the air currents and dust above a rider's head.

The attorney general of New York state is handling 3,233 cases, involving over \$150,000,000 in money and property.

An electric motor taking current from any convenient source provides the power to operate a new circular meat cutting saw as it is held in position by a handle.

Of German invention is a new thief alarm, small enough to be carried in a vest pocket, which explodes a noise call if any object under which it is placed is moved.

England has a convent for the education of penniless daughters of nobles. Each of the young women when ready to leave is given a dowry of \$200, and is as eagerly sought in marriage as a person of importance.

## Low-Grade Melody.

Walker—I'm thinking seriously of investing in an automobile.

Ryder—Well, I've got a little beauty that I'll sell to you for a mere song.

Walker—For a mere song, eh? To the tune of what?

Ryder—"Old Hundred."

He Knew.

Professor—Tell me what are some of the uses of hot air?

Student (absently)—Well, in oratory it is especially useful in warming up an audience to the subject.

## Of Course.

"You can't tell anything about a woman," replied the bachelor.

"Where'd you get that stuff?" replied the married man, "my wife tells something about every woman she knows."

## The Reason.

"A modern woman can turn out fifteen millions of pins a day."

"How can you remember those details?"